Co'UNTERPOISE. *n. ſ.* [from *counter* and *poiſe*.]
1. Equiponderance; equivalence of weight; equal force in the oppoſite ſcale of the balance.
Take her by the hand,
And tell her ſhe is thine; to whom I promiſe
A *counterpoiſe*, if not in thy eſtate,
A balance more replete. *Shakeſp. All's well that ends well.*
Faſtening that to our exact balance, we put a metalline *counterpoiſe* into the oppoſite ſcale. *Boyle's Spring of the Air.*
2. The ſtate of being placed in the oppoſite ſcale of the balance.
Th' Eternal hung forth his golden ſcales,
Wherein all things created firſt he weigh'd,
The pendulous round earth, with balanc'd air
In *counterpoiſe*. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* iv. *l.* 999.
3. Equipollence; equivalence of power.
The ſecond nobles are a *counterpoiſe* to the higher nobility, that they grow not too potent. *Bacon, Eſſay* 20.
Their generals, by their credit in the army, were, with the magiſtrates and other civil officers, a ſort of *counterpoiſe* to the power of the people. *Swift on the Diſſent. in Athens and Rome.*
Co'UNTERPO'ISON. *n. ſ.* [*counter* and *poiſon*.] Antidote; medicine by which the effects of poiſon are obviated.
Counterpoiſons muſt be adapted to the cauſe; for example, in poiſon from ſublimate corroſive, and arſenick. *Arbuthnot.*
Co'UNTERPRE'SSURE. *n. ſ.* [*counter* and *preſſure*.] Oppoſite force; power acting in contrary directions.
Does it not all mechanick heads confound,
That troops of atoms from all parts around,
Of equal number, and of equal force,
Should to this ſingle point direct their courſe;
That ſo the *counterpreſſure* ev'ry way,
Of equal vigour, might their motions ſtay,
And, by a ſteady poiſe, the whole in quiet lay? *Blackm.*
Co'UNTERPRO'JECT. *n. ſ.* [*counter* and *project*.] Correſpondent part of a ſcheme.
A clear reaſon why they never ſent any forces to Spain, and why the obligation not to enter into a treaty of peace with France, until that entire monarchy was yielded as a preliminary, was ſtruck out of the *counterproject* by the Dutch. *Swift.*
To Co'UNTERPRO'VE. *v. a.* [from *counter* and *prove*.] To take off a deſign in black lead, or red chalk, by paſſing it through the rolling-preſs with another piece of paper, both being moiſtened with a ſponge. *Chambers.*
To COUNTERROL'. *v. a.* [*counter* and *roll*. This is now generally written as it is ſpoken, *control*.] To preſerve the power of detecting frauds by a counter account.
Co'UNTERRO'LMENT. *n. ſ.* [from *counterrol*.] A counter account; controlment.
This preſent manner of exerciſing of this office, hath ſo many teſtimonies, interchangeable warrants, and *counterrolments*, whereof each, running through the hands, and reſting in the power of ſo many ſeveral perſons, is ſufficient to argue and convince all manner of falſhood. *Bacon.*
Co'UNTERSCARP. *n. ſ.* [from *counter* and *ſcarp*.] In fortification, is that ſide of the ditch which is next the camp, or properly the talus that ſupports the earth of the covert-way; although by this term is often underſtood the whole covert-way, with its parapet and glacis; and ſo it is to be underſtood when it is ſaid the enemy lodged themſelves on the *counterſcarp*. *Harris.*
To Co'UNTERSI'GN. *v. a.* [from *counter* and *ſign*.] To ſign an order or patent of a ſuperiour, in quality of ſecretary, to render the thing more authentick. Thus charters are ſigned by the king, and *counterſigned* by a ſecretary of ſtate, or lord chancellor. *Chambers.*
Co'UNTERTE'NOR. *n. ſ.* [from *counter* and *tenor*.] One of the mean or middle parts of muſick; ſo called, as it were, oppoſite to the tenor. *Harris.*
I am deaf for two months together: this deafneſs unqualifies me for all company, except a few friends with *countertenor* voices. *Swift.*
Co'UNTERTI'DE. *n. ſ.* [*counter* and *tide*.] Contrary tide; fluctuations of the water.
Such were our *countertides* at land, and ſo
Preſaging of the fatal blow,
In your prodigious ebb and flow. *Dryden.*
Co'UNTERTI'ME. *n. ſ.* [*counter* and *time*, *contretemps*, French.]
1. The defence or reſiſtance of a horſe, that intercepts his cadence, and the meaſure of his manage. *Farrier's Dict.*
2. Defence; oppoſition.
Let cheerfulneſs on happy fortune wait,
And give not thus the *countertime* to fate. *Dryd. Aurengz.*
Co'UNTERTU'RN. *n. ſ.* [*counter* and *turn*.]
The cataſtaſis, called by the Romans ſtatus, the height and full growth of the play, we may call properly the *counterturn*, which deſtroys that expectation, embroils the action in new difficulties, and leaves you far diſtant from that hope in which it found you. *Dryden on Dramatick Poeſy.*
To COUNTERVA'IL. *v. a.* [*contra* and *valeo*, Latin.] To be equivalent to; to have equal force or value; to act againſt with equal power.

In ſome men there may be found ſuch qualities as are able to *countervail* thoſe exceptions which might be taken againſt them, and ſuch men's authority is not lightly to be ſhaken off. *Hooker, b.* ii. *ſect.* 7.
And therewithal he fiercely at him flew,
And with important outrage him aſſail'd;
Who, ſoon prepar'd to field, his ſword forth drew,
And him with equal valour *countervail'd*. *Fairy Queen, b.* ii.
The outward ſtreams, which deſcend, muſt be of ſo much force as to *countervail* all that weight, whereby the aſcending ſide, in every one of theſe revolutions, does exceed the other; and though this may be effected by making the water-wheels larger, yet then the motion will be ſo ſlow, that the ſcrew will not be able to ſupply the outward ſtreams. *Wilkins's Dedalus.*
We are to compute, that, upon balancing the account, the profit at laſt will hardly *countervail* the inconveniencies that go along with it. *L'Eſtrange, Fable* 112.
Co'UNTERVA'IL. *n. ſ.* [from the verb.]
1. Equal weight; power or value ſufficient to obviate any effect or objection.
2. That which has equal weight or value with ſomething elſe.
Surely, the preſent pleaſure of a ſinful act is a poor *countervail* for the bitterneſs of the review, which begins where the action ends, and laſts for ever. *South's Sermons.*
Co'UNTERVIE'W. *n. ſ.* [*counter* and *view*.]
1. Oppoſition; a poſture in which two perſons front each other.
Mean while, ere thus was ſin'd and judg'd on earth,
Within the gates of hell ſat ſin and death,
In *counterview*. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* x. *l.* 231.
2. Contraſt; a poſition in which two diſſimilar things illuſtrate each other.
I have drawn ſome lines of Linger's character, on purpoſe to place it in *counterview* or contraſt with that of the other company. *Swift's Introduction to Genteel Converſation.*
To Co'UNTERWO'RK. *v. a.* [*counter* and *work*.] To counteract; to hinder any effect by contrary operations.
But heav'n's great view is one, and that the whole:
That *counterworks* each folly and caprice;
That diſappoints th' effect of ev'ry vice. *Pope's Eſſ. on Man.*
Co'UNTESS. *n. ſ.* [*comitiſſa*, Lat. *comteſſe*, French.] The lady of an earl or count.
I take it, ſhe that carries up the train,
Is that old noble lady, the dutcheſs of Norfolk.
—It is, and all the reſt are *countеſſes*. *Shakeſ. Henry* VIII.
It is the peculiar happineſs of the *counteſs* of Abingdon to have been ſo truly loved by you, while ſhe was living; and ſo gratefully honoured after ſhe was dead. *Dryden.*
COUNTING-HOUSE. *n. ſ.* [*count* and *houſe*.] The room appropriated by traders to their books and accounts.
Men in trade ſeldom think of laying out money upon land, 'till their profit has brought them in more than their trade can well employ; and their idle bags, cumbering their *counting-houſes*, put them upon emptying them. *Locke.*
Co'UNTLESS. *adj.* [from *count*.] Innumerable; without number; not to be reckoned.
Ay, tear for tear, and loving kiſs for kiſs,
Thy brother Marcus tenders on thy lips:
O, were the ſum of theſe that I ſhould pay
Countleſs and infinite, yet would I pay them. *Shakeſpeare.*
But oh, her mind, that orcus which includes
Legions of miſchief, *countleſs* multitudes
Of former curſes. *Donne.*
By one *countleſs* ſum of woes oppreſt,
Hoary with cares, and ignorant of reſt,
We find the vital ſprings relax'd and worn;
Thus, thro' the round of age, to childhood we return. *Prior.*
I ſee, I cry'd, his woes, a *countleſs* train;
I ſee his friends o'erwhelm'd beneath the main. *Pope's Odyſſ.*
The ſeats which, ſhining through the chearful land,
In *countleſs* numbers, bleſt Britannia ſees. *Thomſ. Autumn.*
CO'UNTRY. *n. ſ.* [*contrée*, Fr. *contrata*, low Latin; ſuppoſed to be contracted from *conterrata*.]
1. A tract of land; a region.
Send out more horſes, ſkirre the *country* round,
Hang thoſe that talk of fear. *Shakeſpeare's Macbeth.*
They require to be examined concerning the deſcriptions of thoſe *countries* of which they would be informed. *Sprat.*
2. The parts of a region diſtant from cities or courts; rural parts.
I ſee them hurry from *country* to town, and then from the town back again into the *country*. *Spectator*, N°. 626.
3. The place which any man inhabits.
4. The place of one's birth; the native ſoil.
The king ſet on foot a reformation in the ornaments and advantages of our *country*. *Sprat.*
O, ſave my *country*, heav'n, ſhall be your laſt. *Pope.*
5. The inhabitants of any region.
All the *country*, in a general voice,
Cry'd hate upon him; all their prayers and love
Were ſet on Hereford. *Shakeſpeare's Henry* IV. *p.* ii.
Co'UNTRY. *adj.* [This word is ſcarcely uſed but in compoſition.]
1. Ruſtick;

1. Ruſtick; rural; villatick.
Cannot a *country* wench know, that having received a ſhilling from one that owes her three, and a ſhilling alſo from another that owes her three, that the remaining debts in each of their hands are equal? *Locke.*
I never meant any other, than that Mr. Trot ſhould confine himſelf to *country* dances. *Spectator*, N°. 308.
He comes no nearer to a poſitive, clear idea of a poſitive infinite, than the *country* fellow had of the water which was yet to paſs the channel of the river where he ſtood. *Locke.*
Talk but with *country* people, or young people, and you ſhall find that the notions they apply this name to, are ſo odd that nobody can imagine they were taught by a rational man. *Locke.*
The low mechanicks of a *country* town do ſomewhat outdo him. *Locke.*
Come, we'll e'en to our *country* ſeat repair,
The native home of innocence and love. *Norris.*
2. Remote from cities or courts, and of an intereſt oppoſite to that of courts.
A *country* gentleman, learning Latin in the univerſity, removes thence to his manſion-houſe. *Locke.*
3. Peculiar to a region or people.
She laughing the cruel tyrant to ſcorn, ſpake in her *country* language. 2 *Macabees*, vii. 27.
4. Rude; ignorant; untaught.
We make a *country* man dumb, whom we will not allow to ſpeak but by the rules of grammar. *Dryden's Dufreſnoy.*
Co'UNTRYMAN. *n. ſ.* [from *country* and *man*.]
1. One born in the ſame country, or tract of ground. *Locke.*
See, who comes here?
My *countryman*; but yet I know him not. *Shakeſp. Macbeth.*
Horace, great bard, ſo fate ordain'd, aroſe;
Snatch'd their fair actions from degrading proſe,
And ſet their battles in eternal light. *Prior.*
The Britiſh ſoldiers act with greater vigour under the conduct of one whom they do not conſider only as their leader, but as their *countryman*. *Addiſon on the State of the War.*
2. A ruſtick; one that inhabits the rural parts.
All that have buſineſs to the court, and all *countrymen* coming up to the city, leave their wives in the country. *Graunt.*
3. A farmer; a huſbandman.
A *countryman* took a boar in his corn. *L'Eſtrange.*
Co'UNTY. *n. ſ.* [*comté*, Fr. *comitatus*, Latin.]
1. A ſhire; that is, a circuit or portion of the realm, into which the whole land is divided, for the better government thereof, and the more eaſy adminiſtration of juſtice; ſo that there is no part of the kingdom, but what lieth within ſome *county*. Every *county* is governed by a yearly officer, called a ſheriff, who, among other duties belonging to his office, puts in execution all the commands and judgments of the king's courts. Of theſe counties four are termed county-palatines, as that of Lancaſter, Cheſter, Durham, and Ely. A county-palatine is a juriſdiction of ſo high a nature, that whereas all pleas, touching the life and the maiming of a man, called pleas of the crown, and ordinarily held in the king's name, and which cannot paſs in the name of any other; the chief governors of theſe, by ſpecial charter from the king, ſent out all writs in their own name, and did all things touching juſtice as abſolutely as the prince himſelf in other counties, only acknowledging him their ſuperior and ſovereign. But this power has, by a ſtatute in Henry VIII. his time, been much abridged. Beſides the above counties of both ſorts, there are likewiſe counties corporate, which are certain cities or ancient boroughs upon which our princes have thought good to beſtow extraordinary liberties. Of theſe London is one, York another, the city of Cheſter a third, and Canterbury a fourth. And to theſe may be added many more; as the county of the town of Kingſton upon Hull, the county of the town of Haverfordweſt, and the county of Litchfield. *County* is, in another ſignification, uſed for the county-court which the ſheriff keeps every month within his charge, either by himſelf or his deputy. Of theſe counties, one with another, there are reckoned thirty-ſeven in England, beſides twelve in Wales. *Cowel.*
Diſcharge your powers unto their ſeveral *counties*,
As we will ours. *Shakeſp. Henry* IV. *p.* ii.
He caught his death the laſt *county* ſeſſions, where he would go to ſee juſtice done to a poor widow-woman and her fatherleſs children. *Addiſon's Spectator*, N°. 517.
2. An earldom.
3. A count; a lord: now wholly obſolete.
The gallant, young, and noble gentleman,
The *county* Paris. *Shakeſpeare's Romeo and Juliet.*
He made Hugh Lupus *county* palatine of Cheſter, and gave that earldom to him and his heirs, to hold the ſame *ita liberè ad gladium ſicut rex tenebat Angliam ad coronam*. *Davies.*
COUPE'E. *n. ſ.* [French.] A motion in dancing, when one leg is a little bent and ſuſpended from the ground, and with the other a motion is made forwards. *Chambers.*
CO'UPLE. *n. ſ.* [*couple*, Fr. *copula*, Latin.]

1. A chain or tye that holds dogs together:
I'll keep my ſtable-ſtand where
I lodge my wife; I'll go in *couples* with her,
Than when I feel and ſee no further truſt her. *Shakeſp.*
It is in ſome ſort with friends as it is with dogs in *couples*; they ſhould be of the ſame ſize and humour. *L'Eſtrange's Fab.*
2. Two; a brace.
He was taken up by a *couple* of ſhepherds, and by them brought to life again. *Sidney.*
A ſchoolmaſter, who ſhall teach my ſon and your's, I will provide; yea, though the three do coſt me a *couple* of hundred pounds. *Aſcham.*
A piece of chryſtal incloſed a *couple* of drops, which looked like water when they were ſhaken, though perhaps they are nothing but bubbles of air. *Addiſon's Remarks on Italy.*
By adding one to one, we have the complex idea of a *couple*. *Locke.*
3. A male and his female.
So ſhall all the *couples* three,
Ever true in loving be. *Shakeſpeare's Midſum. Night's Dream.*
Oh! alas!
I loſt a *couple*, that 'twixt heaven and earth
Might thus have ſtood, begetting wonder, as
You gracious *couple* do. *Shakeſpeare's Winter's Tale.*
I have read of a feigned commonwealth, where the married *couple* are permitted, before they contract, to ſee one another naked. *Bacon's New Atlantis.*
He ſaid: the careful *couple* join their tears,
And then invoke the gods with pious prayers. *Dryden.*
All ſucceeding generations of men are the progeny of one primitive *couple*. *Bentley's Sermons.*
To Co'UPLE. *v. a.* [*copulo*, Latin.]
1. To chain together.
Huntſman, I charge thee, tender well my hounds;
Leech Merriman, the poor cur is imboſt;
And *couple* Clowder with the deep-mouth'd Brach. *Shakeſp.*
2. To join one to another.
What greater ills have the heaven's in ſtore,
To *couple* coming harms with ſorrow paſt. *Sidney, b.* ii.
And whereſoe'er we went, like Juno's ſwans,
Still we went *coupled* and inſeparable. *Shakeſ. As you like it.*
Put the taches into the loops, and *couple* the tent together, that it may be one. *Exod.* xxvi. 11.
They behold your chaſte converſation *coupled* with fear. 1 *Pet.* iii. 2.
Their concernments were ſo *coupled*, that if nature had not, yet their religions would have made them brothers. *South.*
That man makes a mean figure in the eyes of reaſon, who is meaſuring ſyllables and *coupling* rhimes, when he ſhould be mending his own ſoul, and ſecuring his own immortality. *Pope.*
3. To marry; to wed; to join in wedlock.
I ſhall rejoice to ſee you ſo *coupled*, as may be fit both for your honour and your ſatisfaction. *Sidney.*
I am juſt going to aſſiſt with the archbiſhop, in degrading a parſon who *couples* all our beggars, by which I ſhall make one happy man. *Swift.*
To Co'UPLE. *v. n.* To join in embraces.
The fountains of waters there being rare, divers ſorts of beaſts come from ſeveral parts to drink; and ſo being refreſhed, fall to *couple*, and many times with ſeveral kinds. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory*, N°. 77.
Thou with thy luſty crew,
Caſt wanton eyes on the daughters of men,
And *coupled* with them, and begot a race. *Milt. Parad. Reg.*
That great variety of brutes in Africa, is by reaſon of the meeting together of brutes of ſeveral ſpecies, and waters, and the promiſcuous *couplings* of males and females of ſeveral ſpecies. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*
After this alliance,
Let tigers match with hinds, and wolves with ſheep,
And every creature *couple* with his foe. *Dryd. Span. Fryar.*
COUPLE-BEGGAR. *n. ſ.* [*couple* and *beggar*.] One that makes it his buſineſs to marry beggars to each other.
No *couple-beggar* in the land,
E'er join'd ſuch numbers hand in hand. *Swift.*
Co'UPLET. *n. ſ.* [French.]
1. Two verſes; a pair of rhimes.
Then would they caſt away their pipes, and, holding hand in hand, dance by the only cadence of their voices, which they would uſe in ſinging ſome ſhort *couplets*, whereto the one half beginning, the other half ſhould anſwer. *Sidney, b.* i.
Then at the laſt, an only *couplet* fraught
With ſome unmeaning thing they call a thought;
A needleſs Alexandrine ends the ſong,
That, like a wounded ſnake, drags it ſlow length along.
Pope's Eſſay on Criticiſm.
In Pope I cannot read a line,
But with a ſigh I wiſh it mine;
When he can in one *couplet* fix
More ſenſe than I can do in ſix,
It gives me ſuch a jealous fit,
I cry, pox take him and his wit. *Swift.*

SAMUEL JOHNSON *A Dictionary of the English Language* LONDON, 1755 THE WARNOCK LIBRARY Octavo